



MISSISSIPPI FARM BUREAU FEDERATION

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OPP-2002-0231

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June 4, 2003

Public Information and Records Branch
Office of Pesticide Programs
Environmental Protection Agency
Mail Code: 7502C
1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20460

JUN 11 2003

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RE: Docket ID No. OPP-2002-0231

Dear Office of Pesticide Programs:

The Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation appreciates the efforts of the Environmental Protection Agency to create a more efficient FIFRA Section 18 emergency exemption process. The proposed changes implemented in the pilot program should help streamline and expedite new and previously granted exemptions.

Every year, state pesticide management officials must apply for Section 18 emergency exemptions for products that are not currently labeled for a desired use. Many of these requests have been granted for several consecutive years. EPA should progress towards permanent registration of a product if multiple Section 18 exemptions are granted and continual compliance with no adverse affects to human health or the environment is observed and documented.

We urge the EPA to continue the beneficial and productive dialogue with the Association of American Pest Control Officials and other stakeholders to develop and formulate a sensible, workable rule that allows for continued use of America's pest control products.

Sincerely,

Brent Bailey
Director, Natural and Environmental Resources